

Hispanic/Latino Advisory Council Meeting

DATE: January 24, 2008
TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Centro de la Familia – 3780 S. West Temple, Computer Lab Room

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Facilitator: G. Norma Villar
Minutes: Laura Garcia

Council Member
Administrative Assistant

PRESENT:

Council Members: Sonia Parker, Sally Valdez, and G. Norma Villar.

OEA STAFF: Jesse M. Soriano, and Laura Garcia

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Carmelo Aviles, Elena Bensor, Nolberto Castro, Catalina Corwin, Carl Hernandez, Bárbara Meléndez, Héctor Mendiola, Natalia Solache, and Juan Carlos Vázquez.

GUEST: Alan Seim, Field Organizer of Utah Common Values

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS – Norma welcomed everyone in attendance and began the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

2. SIGN IN SHEET/ROLL CALL – Laura distributed the sign-in sheet.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The November 15, 2007 meeting minutes were not accepted because there was not a quorum to approve them.

4. GUEST SPEAKER - Alan Seim

- Alan is working with the Utah Common Values, he is a Social Worker and he is also in the Utah Democratic State Party.
- Alan distributed a pamphlet of how to “Keep your Money! Have your taxes done for FREE! Then use your refund to invest in your family’s future.”
- The facts are that the Hispanic population is underserved. \$80 million are not being claimed.
- His organization is performing a free tax preparation. This organization is also offering to do the taxes for free for the Hispanic Community.
- This program serviced 1300 people last year.
- Alan and the program want to raise awareness to the Hispanic Community.
- They will start by lid dropping to West Jordan, Kearns, Midvale, and Rosepark areas.
- United Way and Utah Community Action are the sponsors for this program and they are always looking for more sponsors to join.
- Alan left his information with the council.

5. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Old Business – December’s Report

- The Utah Department of Alcohol and Beverage Control partnered with OEA on the **Alcohol and Beverage Control Conferences** for the Hispanic community and for the Pacific Islander Community. There were 1000 attendees for the Polynesian conference.
- The OEA partnered with the **Rotary Club** to give Christmas presents to children from low income families.
- OEA co-sponsored **Kiko Cornejo with the International Festival, Christmas Party** he puts together every year.

- OEA co-sponsored **Vientos Del Sur** a non-profit organization on their Latino Cultural Arts Celebration where OEA was recognized with a plaque.

New Business

- Jesse announced the **Hispanic/Latino Director Position** has been open and it will be closed by January 31, 2008. Jesse read the requirements for the position out loud for the council.
- Regarding the **Utah State Legislature**, Jesse gave a report of the status of some House Bills that will affect the Hispanic Community.
 - Jesse mentioned the Office of Ethnic Affairs is not going to follow through with Utah State Legislature this year as much as Luz did. He recognizes that the OEA used to be very involved in the legislature, but Jesse has decided to refer the council to the www.le.utah.gov website if they want to know the status of the House Bills. If an issue gets really big then the Office of Ethnic Affairs will inform the Hispanic/Latino Advisory Council of it.
- Jesse mentioned that the State Office of Ethnic Affairs **Education Conference** is taking place this year around April and that Dr. Linda Oda is handling the conference. **The Parent Summit on Education** took place on January 5, 2008 and it was very successful. It will be used to help with the Education Conference.
- Jesse announced that on Saturday, January 26, 2008 the Brazilian community will be having a **Brazilian Carnival** in Bountiful at the Wight House. OEA partnered with them.
- Jesse announced that the P.A.L.E. (Parental Awareness Leading to Education) non-profit organization is having a **Pacific Islander 1st-Annual Education Conference** at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center in West Valley from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on January 26, 2008. OEA is co-sponsoring with them.
- Jesse announced the **Mexican Film Festival** will be on March 12 and 14, 2008. Laura will send further information to the council.

6. CHAIR'S/VICE CHAIR'S REPORT: None to Report.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

- The HLAC members present were concerned about the Board of Commission List not being sent out to the Governor yet, and they also wanted to continue with the process of sending the letter Norma finished to the Community Based Organizations that exist in Utah.
- Norma, Sally, and Sonia decided that they will send an e-mail to Carl explaining their concern and to work closely with him on these different projects.
- Sonia would like the HLAC to meet every month so that there are not very much gaps in the way when the council meets again. Laura will send a Survey on an e-mail to the council members so that they can vote when they would prefer to meet.
- Jesse mentioned that the OEA would like for the HLAC to meet at the Centro de la Familia, Computer Lab, or the Salt Lake County's building, or the SLC Library, due to the fact that the Salon de las Americas in the Centro de la Familia has already been booked for the third Thursday of each month for the rest of the year. Laura will do the research and then send it to the council by to the council.

8. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: None to report.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT: None to report.

10. NEXT MEETING: Date and Place TBA.

11. MEETING ADJOURNED: Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Norma moved. Sally second. Motion carried.